

# KILLER WHALE PROTECTION WORKSHOP

28 MARCH 2013

ROCHE HARBOR, SAN JUAN ISLAND, WA

## AGENDA

### MEETING OBJECTIVES

- Review current vessel regulations, guidelines, and associated analyses
- Review monitoring, boater education and enforcement efforts
- Review available industry and economic information and identify data gaps
- Provide a forum for stakeholder input to explore next steps for addressing vessel effects on killer whales

**8:45 AM**      **ARRIVAL AND SIGN IN**

**9:00 AM**      **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** (*B. Bernstein – Workshop Facilitator*)

- Introductions, ground rules, and housekeeping
- Review meeting objectives
- Review agenda and workshop format

**9:15 AM**      **REVIEW CURRENT REGULATIONS, GUIDELINES, AND ASSOCIATED ANALYSES**  
(*L. Barre – NOAA Fisheries*)

- Overview of 200-yard vessel approach and park-in-the-path requirements
- Overview of *Be Whale Wise* voluntary guidelines
- Review 2010 Environmental Assessment
  - Alternatives analyzed
  - Alternatives considered but not analyzed in detail
- Opportunity for clarifying questions

**10:00 AM**      **REVIEW MONITORING AND BOATER EDUCATION EFFORTS**

- Presentation of Soundwatch Boater Education and Monitoring Program (*E. Eisenhardt – The Whale Museum*)
  - Description of on-the-water activities and long-term trends
  - Comparison of pre- and post-regulation compliance and vessel counts
  - KERP kayak guide training and monitoring data
- Presentation on Straitwatch study (*M. Baker & L. Thorpe – Straitwatch*)
- Presentation on vessel descriptive statistics as related to compliance (*J. Houghton – University of Washington, NOAA Fisheries*)
- Opportunity for clarifying questions

**11:00 AM**      **BREAK**

- 11:15 AM      DISCUSSION: MONITORING AND BOATER EDUCATION**
- What general observations can we make when comparing 2011 and 2012 monitoring data with pre-regulation data?
  - What does this comparison suggest about focusing or improving effectiveness of monitoring efforts in the near-term?
  - Are there additional analyses we could conduct on existing pre- and post-regulation data?
  - What additional data (types, sources) could aid in evaluating effectiveness of the regulations?
- 11:45 AM      REVIEW AND DISCUSS ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES (*Panel Format*)**
- NOAA Enforcement (*H. Brubaker/J. Dyer*)
  - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (*R. Mullins*)
  - U.S. Coast Guard (*B. Corrigan*)
  - San Juan County Sheriff's Office (*Deputy H. Crowe*)
- 12:30 PM      LUNCH**
- 1:30 PM      REVIEW AVAILABLE ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRY INFORMATION**
- Presentation on economic impacts (*M. Flight – Industrial Economics, Incorporated*)
    - Available data and associated assumptions
    - Data gaps that preclude quantifying impacts
    - Updated analysis of economic impacts
  - Presentation on whale watch industry perspectives (*B. Goodremont – Pacific Whale Watch Association*)
  - Opportunity for clarifying questions
- 2:15 PM      DISCUSSION: ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRY INFORMATION**
- What general observations can we make on the economic impacts of the regulations?
  - What additional economic data are needed and/or available to better quantify regulatory impacts?
  - What mechanisms might exist or could be developed to compile industry data while preserving anonymity?
- 2:45 PM      BREAK**
- 3:00 PM      DISCUSSION: MOVING FORWARD (*Break out into smaller groups*)**
- 4:30 PM      RECONVENE IN PLENARY: REPORT OUT FROM DISCUSSION GROUPS**
- 5:00 PM      ADJOURN**